



“Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you...” Matthew 28:20

Church of Christ • 13800 S. 4080 Road • P.O. Box 527 • Oologah, Oklahoma 74053

THE LORD’S DAY

Jack Orbison

Many special days have been set aside for God’s people in past years. However, Christians have one very special day. The Lord’s Day is one that saints honor above all others. John, the apostle, was in the spirit on the Lord’s Day (Revelation 1:10). This is the only place in the New Testament where this particular expression is used, but it is obvious what John had in mind. Our Lord was raised from the dead on the first day of the week (Mark 16:2-6). He appeared unto the eleven on the first day of the week (Mark 16:14). The Holy Spirit was poured out upon the apostles and the church was established on the first day of the week (Acts 2). The Christians at Troas assembled, ate the Lord’s Supper, and heard the word preached on the first day of the week (Acts 20:7). The Corinthians were exhorted to lay by in store on the first day of the week (1 Corinthians 16:2). From these passages, and others of like nature, it becomes quite plain that the first day of the week is truly the Lord’s Day.

The purpose of the Lord’s Day worship is twofold. The first is to honor and praise God. God is honored only as we worship as He has instructed. Jesus taught the importance of worshiping God in spirit and in truth (John 4:24). Since the word of God is the only truth concerning worship (John 17:17), we must worship just as the scriptures direct. The second purpose is to build up and strengthen the worshiper. False or incorrect worship will not only keep one from growing stronger, but it will also make one weaker and even cause spiritual

death. Consider the warning given to the Corinthians about eating the Lord’s Supper; “For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord’s body. For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep” (1 Corinthians 11:29-30). When we learn more about God and how to worship him properly, we will grow stronger spiritually.

There is a growing trend in the Lord’s church today to give honor to men that belongs solely unto the Lord. The Lord’s Day worship time is being used for special occasions such as honoring graduates, mothers, fathers, policemen, teachers, or any number of other things that are done to the exclusion of scriptural worship. Let us hasten to state that we believe that Christians should, “Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour” (Romans 13:7). However, we must not use the worship of the Lord’s time frame to honor men. We must not ask the Lord to share our worship time to Him with anything or anyone. When we assemble on the Lord’s Day, we are to be focused on the One who is to be honored and adored. When our worship is designed to please ourselves or to impress others, it becomes vain, empty, and unacceptable (Matthew 15:9).

We should preach the word of God to teach men and not to be men-pleasers, “For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ” (Galatians 1:10). A well-balanced proclamation of the word is needed more than positive preaching only; “Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables” (2 Timothy 4:2-3). We should sing songs that teach and admonish men and not sing songs to please them. Special singing groups with humming arrangements are not designed to teach and admonish. We should eat the Lord’s Supper to remember how and why Christ died. This supper must not be a production aimed at pleasing or impressing men. We should be fervent and sincere as we petition God and give Him thanksgivings. Proper prayers will not include long repetitious prayers designed to impress men. We should “lay by in store” liberally and cheerfully as we have prospered and purposed in our hearts. These contributions are to be used to support the work of each congregation. Elaborate schemes to raise large sums of money may impress men, but they are not approved by God.

Let us always remember that our worship on the first day of the week is unto the Lord in every sense of the word. The first day of the week is a special day set aside for special actions on our part. It is the Lord’s Day!

(via 39th Street Church of Christ, 1983)

When God Says Don't, Don't.

Charles Coats

God told Adam and Eve to not eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil (Genesis 2:17). Adam and Eve both chose to eat of this tree and suffered severe consequences. The beautiful garden in which they lived would no longer be theirs. The ease with which they had to provide for themselves would be gone. They were expelled from the garden and would never be able to get back again (Genesis 3:24).

The children of Israel would later try to do those things which were not authorized by God, and they would fail to enter the Promised Land (Hebrews 3:19). God said the things they did were to be used by us as examples of what not to follow (1Corinthians 10:6). They learned the hard way that when God said don't, He meant don't.

King Saul offered sacrifices when he was not supposed to, and he lost his right to be king (1 Samuel 13:13). God told Israel to not take of the spoils of Jericho. Achan did, and Israel suffered (Joshua 6:18,19; 7:1-26). When God says something, he means it!

A failure to learn the lessons of the past will cause us to certainly repeat the mistakes of the past. And, while we will try to fool ourselves into believing that we will not suffer for our sins, understand that God will punish us for our sins. Let us continue to study God's word and apply the lessons that he has taught us.

Christianity is a system of faith, and in that arrangement, the individual who is converted to Christ undergoes a change by his acceptance of the gospel of Christ. God's scheme of salvation is based upon man's response to the truth.



Interesting Quote from the forefathers of the United States:

“Let me repeat the oath administered by the Chief Justice: ‘I will faithfully administer the office of the President of the United States...’ This is the obligation I have reverently taken before the Lord this day. To keep it will be my single purpose and my prayer” – William McKinley, twenty-fifth President of the United States; from his Inaugural Address, 1897. (Page 313; S.A. Northrop)

Observations and Concerns

November 30, 2022

Welcome Visitors! If you have questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

“My mouth shall speak the praise of the LORD: and let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever” (Psalm 145:21).

Expression of Gratitude: Please remember this week in your prayers of thanksgiving those who lead singing on a regular basis. We appreciate our song leaders.

The fifth Wednesday *Singing* is this evening, November 30.

Men's Business Meeting is this coming Sunday, December 4 after evening services.

There is a *“Thank You Note”* in the foyer from the Dilks.

When the supply of pre-filled communion cups and wafer sets in the foyer is out, we will no longer be offering that option.

Remember in Prayer:

- ▶ **Bill Dilks** has been feeling poorly after cancer treatments.
- ▶ **Ed Dindy**, father of Tia Swearingen, has been diagnosed with cancer and is scheduled to have additional testing this week and next.
- ▶ **Amanda Georgakis**, friend of Sherry Carmona, has breast cancer, and it has metastasized to her spine.

Extended Prayer List: **Joyce Cash** – ongoing health difficulties; **Dan & Marcella Dennis** – ongoing health issues; **Bill Dilks** – undergoing cancer treatments; **Sammy Gray** – continual health concerns; **Chuck Northrop** – blood disorder; **LeAnna Shafer** – undergoing chemotherapy treatments; **Vance & Darla Smith** – extended health problems; **Pat Taylor** – ongoing health issues; **Dale & Betty Jackson** – prolonged health issues; **Sam Orr** – extended health concerns.

December Anniversaries: 27 – **Ross & Tia Swearingen**; December Birthdays: 23 – **Dan Smith**; 31 – **Doyle Jackson**.

Schedule of Services	Assignments		
	Wednesday, Nov. 30	Sunday, Dec. 4 AM	Sunday, Dec. 4 PM
Sundays			
Bible Classes.. 9:30 AM	Chuck Northrop	Chris Nelson	Russ Earl
Worship 10:30 AM	Doyle Jackson	Doyle Jackson	Ross Swearingen
Worship 5:00 PM	Chris Nelson	Paul Praschnik	Chuck Northrop
Wednesdays			
Bible Classes.. 7:00 PM		Russ Earl	Chris Nelson
Website: oologahcofc.org		Chris Nelson	
	Lesson	Chuck Northrop	Doyle Jackson
	Prayer / Door Attendant	Ross Swearingen	Ross Swearingen
			Paul Praschnik